

# THE AMERICAN

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## THE AMERICAN

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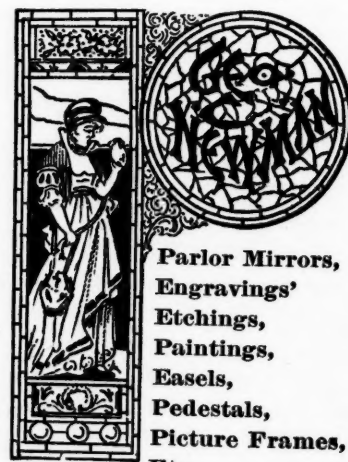
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# THE AMERICAN.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1889.

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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE composition of the next House of Representatives is now nearly certain. Governors' certificates have been issued to 163 Republicans, which makes exactly a majority, and enables them, barring accidents, to organize the House, while 159 have been issued to Democrats. There has been no action reported on the part of the West Virginia Governor, who apparently is waiting to see what effect, if any, his arbitrary and revolutionary action in refusing certificates to McGinnis and Smith may have on the general result, but in Tennessee the Chancery court has decided against the claim set up by Bates, the Democratic contestant in the Chattanooga district, upon which he has appealed to the Supreme Court of the State. It is by no means likely that he will secure anything but delay by this appeal, so that it may be regarded certain that Governor Taylor will issue his certificate to Evans, the Republican elected, before long, and this will make 164 Republican members, and at least 3 majority, no matter what the West Virginia governor may finally decide to do.

There are some contests over the Senatorships which are to become vacant at the 4th of March. In Minnesota, Mr. Sabin's return is contested by Ex-Governor Washburn, and in Delaware, there is as yet no clear indication who will be selected by the Republicans to succeed Mr. Saulsbury. The two candidates most prominent are Mr. Higgins, of New Castle county, and Mr. Massey, of Kent. Both are leaders in their party and men of ability. The importance to Delaware Republicanism of solving the Senatorship problem without loss of strength and unity is very great, as the future of the State depends largely upon the development of a series of measures of reform, which may be, or may not be, evolved from existing circumstances.

In Colorado, the Republicans have designated Mr. E. O. Wolcott to succeed Senator Bowen, and in Michigan Mr. James McMillan has been nominated to succeed Mr. Palmer. In Maine, Mr. Frye has had the deserved honor of a unanimous renomination, and there is apparently no opposition to Mr. Hoar, in Massachusetts, or Mr. Cullom in Illinois.

In West Virginia, the Democratic majority on joint ballot in the Legislature is but one or two, and it appears that the Republicans are not without hope that they may choose General Goff. It will depend, however, upon the disposition of a Labor member, and from a reported interview, he seems to be decidedly inclined to the Democratic side. Perhaps the best to be safely expected may be the election of a Protectionist Democrat like Ex-Senator Camden, who was deprived of reelection through the intrigues of the Free Trade faction of the party.

POLITICALLY, the new year opens as one of hopefulness. We can now, without any strain upon our arithmetical powers, count the days to the close of the present administration, and their lessening tale is lengthening pleasure. We say so with no ill-feeling toward the retiring President, but with the conviction that his rule has been injurious to the nation's interests, and would have become infinitely worse if the people had voted to continue it. He was an accident, and his administration an episode which interrupts the course of our national history.

In less than two months the country will have a President who represents the best elements in our national make-up. The more his career as a man, a citizen, a soldier, and a legislator is scanned the greater is the people's appreciation of his integrity, his courage, and his loyalty to principle. He has done nothing to lower this estimate in the trying weeks since election day, while all sorts of people have poured in upon his privacy to urge the claims of themselves or their friends. Doubtless he did not need

this experience to teach him that a great party is made up of very varying moral worth,—that it has the "vessels of honor and vessels of dishonor," which the Apostle found in "every great house."

SENATOR ALLISON and some of his associates have been spending a part of the holidays in the work of revising the revenue bill. They are determined to send down the measure to the House as perfect as they can make it; and by a perfect revenue bill they understand one which revises the Tariff in accordance with the principles approved by the American people. There are two important points in which the measure still is defective. One of these is the wool duties, which should be made thoroughly protective. On no single question did the election turn more than this of free or protected wool. The vote of the whole Northwest was affected by the proposal of the Mills bill, while the Republicans stood up as one man for the principles of protection to the wool-growers. Now is the time to act upon the principles thus vindicated, and to cement anew the alliance of farmer with manufacturer, which was established by the wool and woollens tariff of 1867, and dissolved by that of 1883. The farmers have a right to expect this. The victory of Nov. 6th was especially theirs, and since that date Mr. J. S. Moore and other Free Traders hardly can find words bad enough to abuse them with. They are "ignorant," they are "clod-hoppers," they are contemptible. Such is the language with which their loyalty to the Tariff is recognized. Let the Senate give it recognition of another kind.

Again we urge an adequate duty on tin-plates. Not only would that industry arise among us, but the iron and steel industries would be benefitted, and the country given additional security against the export of gold. We now are importing from Europe "tin-plate" products whose manufacture at home would furnish employment for 416,000 Americans. More than half this importation could be stopped at once, and the rest in a few years' time, by a judicious reform of the Tariff. That the Senate's bill will stop much of it is the fear of the importers. Hence the outcry of their New York organs, the *Times* and the *Evening Post*, against the bill. If the bill be so revised as to do its work thoroughly, they will make a still louder din in behalf of their clients, while pleading nominally for "the consumer."

THE Massachusetts Tariff Reform League had a big dinner in Boston which was of much less public interest than that at which Mr. Lowell described the President as "the greatest American since Lincoln." Yet it had a letter from Mr. Cleveland, repeating in a condensed shape the fallacies of his messages. It is said, on the authority of Senator Gorman, that the President firmly believes he was defeated not through the preference of the American people for a protective Tariff, but through the secret circulation of personal stories against him, which were kept out of the newspapers! It is not impossible that the *Times* had his sanction for that famous letter reviving certain unpleasant stories and charging certain leading Democrats with circulating them. Certainly the confident tone in which he reiterates his Free Trade opinions, as though they were self-evident truths, falls in with this view of his mental attitude, this letter to the League among the rest.

Mr. Carlisle sent to the meeting a warning to the protected manufacturers of the terrible things they might expect if they went on delaying the triumph of Free Trade. And the head of the Eastern Bureau of the Pension Office, Mr. Hilligoss, complimented American farmers on the ignorance and stupidity which had made them vote against putting wool and other farm products on the free list!

THE Pennsylvania Legislature met and organized for its regular biennial session on Tuesday. The two houses contain a very large Republican majority, the Democratic strength in each being less than one-third. The responsibility for legislation therefore falls upon the majority party without any qualification, and the action taken will be subject to undivided praise or blame. In the Senate, the opening hardly indicated to intelligent observers a very good start, as it was marked by the removal from his position of Chief Clerk of Mr. Thomas B. Cochran, who had served in that position for several years, and was probably better qualified for its duties, by experience combined with natural fitness, than any other person in the State. The removal was purely a political maneuver. It was resisted by Mr. Cochran, but was directed by the influences which are now especially anxious to serve Mr. Quay. It is interesting to note that the nine Senators who stood by Mr. Cochran are chiefly those who formerly were the supporters of Mr. Cameron, and it appears that Mr. Quay's little finger is now more powerful at Harrisburg, in either House, than the whole hand of his colleague.

The new Legislature, it is announced, will "drive the lobbyists out," and means to be known in history as "the model Legislature." This is glad news, indeed, and indicates a hopeful progress towards the political millennium. We shall be better able to judge of the success of the high purposes thus announced, six months later.

GOVERNOR BEAVER'S MESSAGE is an interesting document, and contains many details which should command attention. He states the gross debt of the State at \$14,738,921, against which are assets in the Sinking Fund of \$10,662,607, so that the net debt is \$4,676,314. This shows a reduction in the two years which have passed since the Legislature last met, of nearly two and a half millions, (\$2,401,921), and the Governor refers, in passing, to the prospect of receiving from the General Government a refund of Pennsylvania's share of the "direct tax"—about a million and three quarters. But the decisions of the United States Supreme Court against the constitutionality of the "gross receipts tax" on tonnage moved through the State has greatly affected the revenues, causing a diminution of \$800,000 during 1888, and almost exhausting the reserve funds in the Treasury.

The Governor strongly presses the subject of industrial education, disapproves the closing of the soldiers' orphan schools in 1890, (as now provided for by law), commends the efforts to develop the culture of sorghum sugar, and remarks upon the large expenditure made, with so unsatisfactory results, upon the common roads. In regard to the State Capitol, he favors its repair and improvement, and the erection of a separate and fire-proof building, to accommodate the executive department, the State library, the works of art, etc. The present Capitol, he remarks, "is a splendid specimen of Colonial architecture" and it "should by all means be preserved in its purity, and, as nearly as possible, as originally built."

The Governor recommends the re-approval by the Legislature, for submission to the people, of the constitutional amendments proposed two years ago, (the chief one being the Prohibitory amendment), and he suggests that the vote upon their adoption be taken at a special election in May or June.

THE State of Pennsylvania, through its attorney-general, brings suit against the consolidated telegraph lines, as having violated the new Constitution by the purchase of parallel lines. The telegraphs, like the railroads, seem to have taken it for granted that this provision of the Constitution was of no effect, since the Legislature had not enforced it "by appropriate legislation." But the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter of the purchase of the South Pennsylvania railroad by the Pennsylvania railroad has put a different face upon the matter. The failure of the Legislature to act has not invalidated the provision of the Constitution, and the telegraph companies are in danger of forfeiting the

charters. The suit is under the form of a writ of *Quo warranto*, and forfeiture of charter and franchises is asked. Evidently Mr. Kirkpatrick does not intend to be found less energetic in the defense of the public rights against the encroachments of corporations, than was his predecessor in office, Mr. Cassidy.

Like such laws generally, the provision of the Constitution will work both ways. It will give great railroad and telegraph lines security against the construction of rival lines, which are not meant to be worked, but to be sold at a profit. Under its protection, it would have been impossible to have constructed the West Shore railroad, which could not succeed as a railroad, but was a great success as an instrument of black-mail.

WITH the opening of the year New York city gets its new mayor, and the State sees Mr. Hill inaugurated for his second full term as governor. Neither is much to be congratulated on the result of the November election, but it is assumed from what is known of Mr. Grant that the city gets in him a better man than Gov. Hill. He is objectionable rather because of his political surroundings than anything in his personal character or his public career. But he will need to display more force of will than he ever did before, if he is to be anything better than a pliant tool in the hands of Tammany Hall. At the same time it is to be remembered that Tammany is better than it was under the leadership of Mr. John Kelly, and not a whit worse than the County Democracy had become in the hands into which its leadership had fallen. The truth is that the Democratic party at no point furnishes an adequate support for an honest city government, all its factions having adopted the maxims of the spoils system, and with less hypocrisy in New York than elsewhere.

Much more interest will accompany the struggle at Albany between Gov. Hill and the Republican majority of the Legislature. The proposed excise law, the reconstruction of the system of prison labor, the establishment of the Australian method of voting, and the repeal of the conspiracy laws so far as they affect combinations of laborers, are the chief points of dissension, although there also will be fresh disputes, no doubt, over appointments, between the Governor and the Senate. Mr. Hill certainly is in the right in urging the Legislature to bring the conspiracy laws of New York up to the level of those of Pennsylvania, and the Republican party will gain nothing by resisting that proposal. He certainly is in the wrong in resisting a similar reform of the excise laws; but he owes his place to men whose business interests would be affected by the enactment of such a law as that of this State. Nothing but a combination of a few Democrats with the Republicans so as to secure the passage of the law over the veto, will secure the enactment of any kind of High License and restriction of the number of places where liquor is sold. And that combination is not probable. It is far more likely that the Republicans who represent the hop-growing communities will unite with the Democrats to vote down the proposed bill.

As to the secret voting by the Australian method, we think it would be well to have the plan tested in some one State before others generally adopt it. In Massachusetts it has been adopted but not yet tested, the recent elections having been held in the old fashion. There are objections to the plan. In Australia, as in the United Kingdom, they elect nothing but members of the legislature. It is a very simple matter, where the choice is to be made of one or at most two persons, to identify those for whom you wish to vote. But to send the average voter into a secret place with a long list, and only a couple of minutes to mark his preferences among them, is likely to be confusing. We know of some estimable and conscientious voters, who would be as helpless as children under such circumstances, and who certainly would delay the business of getting the voting done before sun-down.

A bill will be brought forward at this session to employ the convicts in the prisons in agriculture as well as manufactures, and also in draining and improving waste lands. This is a step



towards Sir Walter Crofton's system of prison discipline, which has not been taken anywhere in America. It has worked well in Ireland and in Denmark.

THE head of the English Post-office is very urgent to have the United States adopt the Parcels-Post plan, which is now in operation throughout Europe. We think this is a case for going slowly. If the Government is to go into the Express business, out of what other business is it to keep? Just at present the Socialists are pressing in all directions for an "extension of the sphere of government activity," with the aid of some of our new economists. No doubt they will be shrewd enough to seek the "line of least intrusion into private business resistance" at the point of social comfort and convenience. Most people will condone any government if it can be shown that it will save them a trifle of money, or enable them to come at something in an easier way. They do not pause to ask what is the major premise in the train of reasoning required to justify the intrusion. They are quite content with its personal advantages of the moment, and look no farther. This is the kind of policy which has converted the post-offices of Europe into Express companies, operated by the governments for the sake of revenue, and tolerated by the people for the sake of convenience and cheapness.

It may be remembered that the Post-office is an anomalous feature of our civilization, which finds its special justification in the political necessity for maintaining close and constant communication between all parts of the body politic. But when we allow it to step outside the limits of its proper functions and use its machinery to minister to social conveniences which are not political necessities, we are adopting a principle whose logical result is the absorption of all industrial functions by the State. It is not in this age of the world that we can afford to lose sight of this distinction.

The Parcels-Post must be mischievous in its tendency to centralize business. In England it is ruining the business of even the larger towns, and is building up London at their expense. It is the London interest which is especially strong for its maintenance, as it was London which was especially clamorous for its establishment. In America it would be harmful in cramping the growth of the smaller centres, and if the representatives of those places are awake to the interests of their own constituencies, they will not consent to any farther enlargement of the functions of the Post-office.

THERE have been some indications of a movement among some of the preachers of the Methodist church in Ohio and Indiana, to discourage if not prevent the holding of the public dancing affair at Washington, called "the Inauguration Ball." General Harrison is a Presbyterian elder, and probably not much of a dancer, but we doubt whether he is going to take on much trouble about this matter, and apparently the ministers of his denomination are disinclined to do so, either.

It is however true that the Longer Catechism of the Westminster Assembly proscribes "dancing and stage-plays" as breaches of the Seventh Commandment! But that Catechism was the work of Puritans, and in this respect they broke with the traditions of the Scottish Kirk, which had placed stage-plays under the supervision of Presbytery. The American Presbyterian Church always has shrunk from enforcing the Westminster rule. The Assembly of 1818 in its "pastoral letter" dissuades the members of the Church from dancing, yet does not declare that it is wrong in itself. The New School Assembly in 1843 and 1853 used very strong language in condemnation of it, and recommended the sessions to discipline those who took part in promiscuous dances. But as the Old School Assembly in 1860 refused to instruct the sessions to proceed against offenders, the former deliverance has no force in the reunited Church. And the paper adopted by the New School Assembly in 1869 discourages such recourse to discipline by falling back upon the law of love, and declaring that

"the Church should deal with" this and similar questions "not so much by the axe of the law as the sword of the spirit."

As a matter of fact the Presbyterian Church leaves it to Christian discretion, instead of laying down any hard and fast law upon the subject, while the Methodist Discipline since 1872 has required admonition on the first two offenses and trial and expulsion on the third. Presbyterians differ very widely as to the harmfulness or harmlessness of dancing, as is shown by their practice. They are not the kind of people to put their conscience into the keeping of synod or clergy, on a point where the Bible has not spoken clearly. Gen. Harrison and his family are known to take the less strict view, and we presume he will not be rebuked by his conscience for appearing at the Inauguration Ball in the usual formal way. It may be added that Queen Victoria, who is a Presbyterian communicant in Scotland, and is believed to prefer the Kirk to the Church, gives balls even at Balmoral, and nobody finds fault.

It is noteworthy that in the last six months a considerable number of thefts and defalcations of the Government's money have taken place, the last to come to light being one of \$1,200 in silver from the Sub-Treasury at Baltimore. These things are not at all surprising. The fashion in which the different branches of the public service have been stripped of men of experience and tried character, and their places filled with others whose claim to consideration was their partisan usefulness, made it certain that black sheep would find their way into places of trust, and weak or incompetent men be put in charge of public property.

If Gen. Harrison were to deal with the Democrats now in office as Mr. Cleveland has done with the Republicans he found there, it would lead most likely to similar scandals in appointment, and similar robberies of the government. It is the system which is to blame, and the party only in so far as it has originated or adopted the system.

THE Holiday season seems to have been as general a source of enjoyment as ever in our history. The amount of money spent on Christmas gifts of all degrees of value indicated that the country is not suffering from lack of ready cash. Rich and poor met in our great emporiums to invest in tokens of good will. It is true there is need of a gift reform for Christmas time. There should be a time of age at which Christmas gifts cease, and people above it regard them as out of place. The proper significance of Christmas as the children's festival is disappearing, when everybody expects to be "remembered" in this way.

In Philadelphia, the old street rowdyism on the eve of New Year's day has disappeared under the pressure of the hand of the authorities. But the vacuum has been filled with masquerade parades on the first day of the New Year. As every such company has to obtain a permit from the city government, there is some security for the keeping of good order. This year the show was both striking and orderly, and needed only combination and organization into a single parade to make it a complete success. Nor was the fun the less for the general absence of excess of any kind. The operation of the Brooks law was felt in the rareness of drunken men. This is as it should be in regard to giving some scope to the spirit of hilarity. Mere repression never works well, but to divert the superfluous spirits of the young from dangerous into safe channels is genuine wisdom. And Philadelphia has fairly done it as regards both the celebration of New Year's day and that of the Fourth of July.

THE town of Marblehead, now one of a series which closely lines the upper coast of Massachusetts, will have sorrowful reason to remember this Christmas, a fire which broke out in the evening of the day having laid the business district in ashes. As it was one of the shoe-making towns, a considerable number of working-people were thrown out of employment. But the people at once set themselves at the work of replacing the old wooden

structures which had been burnt with others of brick and stone, and ten years hence Marblehead will be a finer and probably a more prosperous place than ever. It is one of the great advantages of the insurance system of modern times that the losses of a great fire are widely distributed, whereas they once fell upon a single community with unrelieved weight. Towns were burnt down as frequently in the north of Europe two centuries ago as they now are, and perhaps even more frequently. In that case the people had nothing to fall back upon except the Christian charity of their neighbors, which in those days of imperfect communication was a very meagre source of relief. Insurance against fire, if it included all the property affected, would reduce the loss to a temporary inconvenience. Even as it is, it enables any burnt-out Marblehead to draw largely upon the capital of the rest of the country for rebuilding, without incurring an obligation of any kind.

Those inflammable towns of the old world were all built of wood. The Puritans and the Virginians, coming to America while that was still the favorite material in England, adopted the fashion and have clung to it ever since. Pennsylvania was colonized after the English fashion had changed, and always has shown a preference for brick and stone.

To the list of the deaths of eminent men with which the old year ended, we must add three more. Signor Mancini was the only Italian statesman who rose to the level of Cavour, and made Italy a European power in reality as well as in name. The triple alliance which unites Central Europe against both France and Russia, is his monument.

Prince Karageorgevitch was the representative of the rival dynasty in Serbia, who would have stepped into King Milan's shoes, if the Skuptchina had given that graceless monarch his dismissal. His death is a piece of luck for Milan, who also has come to terms with the Radical majority in the Skuptchina, and now is trying to distract the country from his misdeeds by "a vigorous foreign policy," which looks to detaching Bosnia from Austria.

Gen. Loris Melikoff is the only man of the Armenian race who has brought its acknowledged abilities to bear upon modern public life. For centuries this people, once prolific of heroes, have confined their energies to commerce, in which they rival the Parsee and the Jews in cosmopolitanism and in success. He was born in Moscow and educated there; but his parents were of pure Armenian stock. First in war and then as a military administrator in St. Petersburg he showed himself a man of both force and ideas. He was laboring to restore both order and personal liberty of action in the capital, when the murder of Alexander II. discredited his reforms and forced his retirement. Since that time he has lived in a kind of exile, debarred from serving his country by the jealousy of the omnipotent bureaucracy.

THE situation in Hayti continues unsettled. The surrender of the steamer, at Port-au-Prince, to the peremptory demand of Admiral Luce has ended that incident, but it looks unlikely that Légitime, the "President" elected there, will have an easy time in maintaining his position against Hippolyte, his rival in the north of the island. Hayti illustrates pretty much all the difficulties of forming a stable government—a tropical climate, an ignorant people, an extended experience of turmoil and revolution, and exposure to outside intrigues.

THE friends and followers of Mr. Gladstone, in England, have been thrown into a condition of mild panic by a report that he had proposed in Rome an international arbitration of the dispute pending between the King of Italy and the Pope. Later the report has been qualified and substantially denied. Mr. Gladstone says that the letter described as the basis of the story is an old one, and that the translation given out is not accurate.

Of course, it will be conceded by most people that no proposal could be more futile. It may be true that there are needless

annoyances attaching to the Pope's position, and that his friends have made much of these in putting the case before their distinguished English visitor. But neither Leo XIII. nor the *papalini* care for the removal of these. Rather they value them as furnishing a plea for the reestablishment of the papal government in Rome. And to that Italy neither will nor should consent, nor would any European statesman ask her to do so. The world has had quite enough of the rule of the priest, and knows that no matter how good the priest is, his exercise of civil authority is about the worst possible. Roman Catholic Europe, if its free suffrage were taken, would itself note down the proposal. And Europe no longer is Roman Catholic since Russia has advanced from the East, Germany has consolidated, and England has become a leading power. The Middle Ages are not to return.

#### SELECTING THE CABINET.

AFTER all the speculations and discussions concerning the composition of the new Cabinet, the result of each process must be the same: that General Harrison himself must make his own selections. The duty is not only one belonging to the Presidential office, but more than any other important function it is personal to himself as an individual. The heads of the seven great departments are his associates and counsellors, and their relation to him is such that none of them can even desire to remain a part of the Administration beyond the time when it ceases to be agreeable to his wishes. That they should expect or even wish to be appointed, unless he sees fit freely to choose them is of course out of the question.

Whatever is done, therefore, to press this or that gentleman upon General Harrison's attention is done subject to this primary condition. It is simply a process of bringing forward candidates whom he might otherwise not duly consider. It cannot be an effort to force upon him persons whom he does not incline to take. That would be an affront to him, and it would be a transgression of the principle involved in the whole business, which requires, not that he is to be a judge of the comparative political strength of one leader and another, but that he shall decide, upon considerations which seem good to his own mind, who are the seven men who will best satisfy his own wishes.

As a matter of fact, the people do not elect the Cabinet. They are officers derived from the Presidency, and as to them the popular purpose is expressed, and its action exhausted, when that place has been filled. The election relates to the President, and the choice made involves the choice also of those officers who are to stand in close relation to him and the executive functions with which he is charged.

We look upon the Cabinet activities of the past few weeks, therefore, as simply a presentation of facts to General Harrison's notice. He is in no way bound to regard them, unless he sees fit to do so. The appointment of his Cabinet is an act so entirely within the scope of his own discretion that he is free from the necessity of accounting to any other tribunal than his own conscience and judgment for the manner in which he performs it. Doubtless he must be prepared to have his selections criticised if they should fall below the standard which the country's experience has led it to exact, but within the limits of public propriety his hands are free and his action is his own.

General Harrison will act, we think, on this line. He will desire men of ability in his Cabinet, because he wishes his Administration to be strong and successful. He will desire men of character, because he is not one inclined to be associated with persons of any other sort. He will desire that his selections shall represent the Republican strength of the country and shall tend to increase and consolidate it. He will desire not to disappoint a just and reasonable demand of his party, in its several sections and several elements. Yet all these considerations are simply elements in that general inclination of his own mind which must ultimately decide the whole matter.



Whatever may be the conclusion arrived at, there will be, of course, some disappointments. It is impossible for General Harrison to satisfy all the hopes and expectations which exist. He cannot, for example, satisfy both those who demand the appointment of Mr. Platt and those who object to it. He cannot make Mr. Blaine Secretary of State and also refuse to appoint him. He cannot do a score of other contradictory and opposing things which are more or less vehemently suggested to him. With the best wishes in the world to all aspirants and their friends, he will, no matter what course he takes, disappoint more than he pleases, just in the ratio that seven bears toward seventy, or some number of like dimensions. But, as the tenor of this article indicates, there must be, amongst all those who desire the success of his administration, a willingness fairly to acquiesce in his judgment and a readiness cordially to support the work which he and his subordinates are to undertake. The country has declared its confidence in him as one fit for its highest executive duties, and it will accord to him a full freedom of choice within the just limits where that is his right.

#### THE ECONOMISTS IN CONFERENCE.

THE meeting of the American Economic Association in the rooms of the University was but one out of a number of such conferences during the holiday week which drew hard-worked college professors to attend their sessions. The American Historical Association in Washington was discussing the nation's past, while the economists were divining the future. In the same city an American Church History Association was treating the development of the Christian faith and institutions, but—we regret to say—ignoring entirely the American side of that great subject. The American geologists were organizing a national Geological Society in another city; and the Political Economy Club, which consists of the orthodox economists, was holding its annual dinner in New York.

None of these, however, not even the American Historical Association, brought together a finer or more earnest body of men than gathered in the chapel of the University, (on Thursday evening of last week), to hear President Walker deliver his annual address. Earnestness, indeed, is the mark of the new school. Whatever their faults, they have high purposes and a strong conviction of their responsibilities as advisers of society. Old-fashioned Political Economy, with its belief that "everything finds its level," that no great and permanent harm could come to society from anything, or at least no harm that it was worth while to do battle against, could take things easy. But with the abandonment of the Wage Fund theory by John Stuart Mill economists generally awakened up to the consciousness that society has the power to abate its own evils, and that those who advise it in that work are exercising a very important function. The era of mere *Laissez faire* is ended, and with it the easy satisfaction which the theory provided. The old economists went to bed as comfortably as did the Dutch captain of the early ages of navigation, when he furled all sail, lashed the helm fast, and knew he would find his vessel in the morning just where he left her at night. The new economist shares the anxiety of the commander of a great ocean-steamship, who knows that while he sleeps the vessel flies onward.

The address of General Walker was the central fact of the whole proceedings. There are few men living who can say so much in an hour and say it so gracefully. He referred with natural pride to the rapid growth of the Association, which in three years had come to be the reunion of all the principal economists of the United States. He traced this growth not so much to the merits and labors of the Association itself, as to the general movement of society in the direction of its ideas. Both in Europe and America the world had moved toward an ample recognition of the responsibility of society for its members. The rise of Democracy had caused a deeper sense of governmental responsibility, while the old notions that the prosperous and educated classes could take better care for the workmen than they could for themselves has passed away. It is the conception of government as the organ of all classes and for all classes which takes its place. He held that great harm had come to the development of the economic science through the crystallization of teaching along the line of the controversy between Free Trade and Protection. He censured the American Free Traders for having imported the *Laissez faire* doctrine from England without any of the qualifications with which it is accompanied in the best authorities of that country, and for setting it up as a test whether or not a man had the right to be called an economist. He said:

"Such intolerance was not necessarily one of bigotry. It was rather inherent in the very nature of the '*laissez faire*' doctrine. If that was true there was no reason why an economist should have any professional communion or intercourse with an outsider. No good could come of it. But the abandonment of '*laissez faire*' as a principle of universal application however strongly individuals may maintain it as a general rule of conduct, at once makes communion and coöperation not merely possible, but desirable among economists. It throws open the door to all, not confining the discussion to one man or set of men, but gives every man a chance to have something to say on economic questions, making all contribute to the fund of economic thought and knowledge; every interested and intelligent person becomes a possible contributor, every class of men, whether divided by social or other lines, has something to say which no other class can afford not to hear from.

"The throwing open of the door should at once heighten the popular interest in political economy. The barrier which '*laissez faire*' had raised to economic investigation and speculation once removed, political economy ceased to be a finished work, which might have been the product of one hand alone, and, indeed, by it struck off at a heat; which might just as well have been done before the invention of letters as at any later date, granted only a man with a special interest in the subject and a special aptitude for that sort of reasoning. It might just as well have been done on an island with a thousand inhabitants as done at the centre of the world's activities and in the knowledge of all that is going on in either hemisphere, on every continent. It might just as well have been done by a tribe fresh created by divine power, without a year's history behind them.

"That barrier removed, political economy became something which never is, but is always to be done, growing with the growing knowledge of the race; changing as man, its subject matter, changes; something which, in the nature of the case, must be work done not by one hand, but by many; something which any man in his place may contribute, to which all classes and races of men must contribute if the full truth is to be disclosed."

Thus far we are in entire agreement with Prof. Walker and with the new school, and regret that Mr. Colwell and Mr. Carey have not lived to see the work of casting down the Moloch of *Laissez faire* in such good hands. But when Prof. Walker goes still farther and denies the existence of a beneficent "course and constitution of nature" in economic affairs, we think he "throws out the baby with the bath." It is quite true that the conception of the natural as a test of the right was badly over-worked in the eighteenth century, and that the English economists exaggerated the exaggerations of that age. But it also is true that that very conception of what is "natural" is one of the most valuable inheritances the eighteenth century has left us. It has revolutionized the methods of education by reminding us that the laws of the child's mental growth are laws of nature, which we must comply with in aiding its development. In spite of the reaction headed by Burke and Gentz, the conception of natural rights has been fruitful of good in politics, as a touchstone of both methods and institutions. And in art and poetry it has been revolutionary for good and little else than good. Cowper and Wordsworth are the disciples of Rousseau.

Why should this cease to be true when we come to economic science? It is true that the English economists laid down as natural laws what are not laws at all. But that was because they shrank from including in their theories the human nature on which the laws of Political Economy rest as on one abutment, man's natural environment furnishing the other. They eliminated everything but human greed, and supposed the economic phenomena are explicable from that premise. As Prof. Patten showed in his admirable paper on Malthus and Ricardo, this blunder of the latter is traceable to the English economist's narrow, human environment, and his want of a larger acquaintance with human life. It made his task much easier than is that of the economist who is to supersede him and is to show how the economic relation of our complex human nature to our complex natural environment is governed by natural law. But until that is done there will be no science of Political Economy.

Prof. Walker dwelt on the way in which Political Economy had been affected by the general change in the time of scientific thought which had been the outcome of Mr. Darwin's teachings. Certainly that influence has not been in the direction of weakening the belief in the scope and reach of natural law in all fields. It has given a new reinforcement to the old Malthusian doctrine, while it has modified it to some extent. This Mr. Grant Allen shows in his biography of the greatest of the naturalists. Prof. Alfred Marshall characterized the change very happily in his Cambridge inaugural, in showing that it had led to the substitution of biological for mechanical conceptions as the fittest analogues to economic conceptions. It has taught us how complex is the human society whose economic laws we are trying to grasp, and how inadequate are the cheap generalizations obtained by comparing the body economic to a fluid.

Of the questions discussed by the Association none aroused more interest than that of wages, and none brought out better the large and generous spirit in which these new economists approach social problems. There was nothing of the old assumption that the iron law of "supply and demand" determined the rate of wages, and that it was idle for the working-man to seek

for the improvement of his condition through organized effort. Even the eight hour proposal was treated with courtesy, if not with any general assent, and the wish was expressed freely that in the matter of the length of a day's work and its rewards the condition of labor everywhere should be put on a better footing.

The meeting was one of great interest and profit to the students of the Wharton School, who had a holiday course in Political Economy through the meeting of the Convention.

#### THE TROUBLES OF AN IMPRESARIO.<sup>1</sup>

NOW that the dulcet cadences and melodious rhythms of Italian opera are no longer the fashion, and when music lovers go to the Academy not for the sake of hearing a great prima donna or tenore, but to be carried away by the drama and to hear the thunder-clap effects of the new school, in which blasts of trombones and kettle-drums alternate with the shrieks of war-goddeses among the mountain crags, a book like the one before us, which gives the history of the Decline and Fall-off (as Mr. Wegg might say) of the Italian opera, is both suggestive and amusing. It is a comfort to those who still love the old arias which have been familiar from infancy, and who hope to hear them again with their melting, caressing, accompaniments of flutes and violins, to have Mr. Mapleson's assurance that Italian opera is not wholly dead, and that it will rise again brighter than ever; for if after his experience he still preserves her illusions, it seems to show that something vital and beautiful still survives in it.

Mr. Mapleson's idea of opera was and is of a fashionable after-dinner amusement: he accepts the fact that it is an exotic, not essential to existence perhaps, but an almost necessary accompaniment to an elegant and cultivated life, and to be prized for its prettiness, its rarity, above all for its expensiveness. When he tells us in his concluding chapter that for many years his annual gross receipts were more than a million of dollars, it would seem as if he had known his public and how to please them,—but then when we reflect that he was finally obliged to disband Her Majesty's Opera Company, from lack both of money and credit, we come to the conclusion that, after all, successful management is not simply a cleverly executed trick. We give one successful example of Mr. Mapleson's cleverness: When he was bringing out Gounod's "Faust," in London, for the first time, he discovered at the box-office that things were going very badly indeed,—very few seats had been sold and there seemed to be every chance of the new opera's proving a complete failure. The manager at once gave orders that all the tickets for the first three nights should be brought to him and that it should be announced from the box-office that for those three nights every seat in the house was taken! In the meantime by the aid of a directory and a prodigious outlay of envelopes and postage stamps these tickets were scattered all over London and its suburbs. Carefully worded advertisements in the newspapers informed the readers that so unprecedented had been the demand for seats for the early performances of "Faust" that not one was to be obtained. The apathy of the public was over, and the rush began at once: the would-be buyers, debarred from hearing the first three presentations, filled the house for ten nights in succession as soon as they could obtain seats. Thus "Faust" became the great success of the season.

Then, again, these bold devices came to naught, as when, in New York, in 1883, Mr. Mapleson, wishing to throw the new Metropolitan Opera Company into the shade by the *éclat* of Patti's arrival, chartered "sixteen large tugboats, covered with bunting, to meet the Diva; eight of them to steam up the bay on each side of the arriving steamer and to toot off their steam whistles all the way along, accompanied by military bands. The pilots at Sandy Hook promised to give a salute of twenty-one guns and Arditi had written a cantata for the occasion, which the chorus were to sing immediately on Patti's arrival." Unluckily the steamer contrived to slip in unobserved, and the prima donna arrived at the dock at a time when there was not even a carriage to meet her.

Gautier, in the preface to one of his books, says that the uses of a novel are two-fold, namely, to put certain thousands of francs into the pocket of the author and to supply the trade with something amusing. Mr. Mapleson certainly aimed to amuse the world, but with the most admirable disinterestedness. "Although," he remarks in one place, "an Italian impresario cannot reasonably count on making his own fortune, it ought to be a source of satisfaction to him to reflect that he, in his lavish expenditure, makes the fortunes of singers, officials, and various people in his service."

The world is familiar with the extortions practiced by Madame Adeline Patti. Each day that she sang, \$4,000, and later \$5,000, were paid to her credit by her manager by two o'clock in the afternoon. Had this honorarium settled the matter and made the

evening's performance certain, there would, according to Mr. Mapleson, have been no reason for him to complain. The price was high, but then Patti could draw a \$10,000 house. There still remained the vexatious apprehension whether the prima donna should not have taken cold, or eaten something to cause an indigestion, or feel mentally indisposed to sing. On one occasion when Patti and Gerster were singing together in the "Huguenots," floral offerings were handed to the former, and the latter received only a humble little basket, when the audience, considering this exhibition of partiality too unfair, burst into ringing cheers for Gerster. Patti nerved herself to go through the opera, but vowed never to sing again in the same opera with Gerster, and "on returning to her hotel she threw herself on the ground and kicked and struggled in such a manner that it was only by the greatest difficulty that she could be got to bed."

If Patti were jealous of Madame Gerster, the latter returned the feeling with interest, according to the manager's revelations. Once, on arriving at Baltimore Madame Gerster caught sight of a play-bill in which Adelina Patti's name was printed in larger type than her own. Beside herself with rage and jealousy, Gerster at once ran away to New York, leaving not only her manager but her husband in the lurch. Mr. Mapleson gives a full account of the dilemma, and of the almost impossibility of bringing the outraged second prima donna to reason. "I was placed in great difficulty with regard to the public and the press," writes the ingenious impresario, "knowing that reports would be greatly aggravated and injure the business in all the other cities to which we were going. I thereupon circulated the news that Madame Gerster's baby in New York had taken a cold in its stomach, and that she had been hurriedly sent for."

Very droll stories are also told of the tenors, who if possible were more exacting and insubordinate than the sopranos. They were generally Italians, full of superstitions and nervous terrors, given to implacable resentments for the least cause, and of a laziness trying to the soul of an Anglo-Saxon. Ginglini was a little less amenable to reason than the rest, and indeed finally went out of his mind. "Ginglini," remarks the author, "was in many things a child. So indeed are most members of the artistic tribe, and it is only by treating them and humoring them as children that one can get them to work at all. I have said that the artist is often child-like; but with this childishness a good deal of cunning is sometimes mixed up." Indeed, these revelations seem to go to prove that the artist is generally cunning enough to get the better of the manager, and has not one but a dozen arrows in his quiver with which to wound him.

Some honorable exceptions redeem even Mr. Mapleson's unhappy experiences. Mlle. Titiens was not only a great cantatrice, but endowed with sympathy and often admiration for her fellow artists, and friendship and camaraderie for her manager, with whose interests she considered her own identical. And of Grisi and Mario Mr. Mapleson writes: "For the salary of three hundred pounds a week, these two admirable artists were ready to sing as often as I liked. They were most obliging; full of good nature, and without any of the affectation or caprice from which so few singers at the present time are free. They took a pleasure in their performances, and thought nothing of playing three or four times a week."

One doubts if Madame Patti and others had the least interest, to say nothing of pleasure, in the performance, except as a means of making money. Patti almost invariably declined to attend rehearsals and all the other leading ladies followed suit and put a clause in their contracts that rehearsals were not to be obligatory. The only remedy for their absence at rehearsals was for Arditi to whistle the prima donna's notes in duets and concerted passages when it was absolutely essential that there should be some indication of the soprano. The effects of so loose a method upon the dramatic ensemble of an opera is obvious. This lack of intellectual perception on the part of artists and the absence of any real authority on the part of the manager, is one of the many causes which have led to the extinction of Italian opera. The German school rests on the profound belief that musical art requires the understanding no less than the emotions as its interpreter.

So long as Mapleson could use Patti's name as a conjuring word he was able to draw good houses; but the account of his last season without her,—when he went from town to town, hoping in each to recoup himself for previous failures, then finally returned from San Francisco, broken and bankrupt, fighting off creditors step by step,—reads like the story of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. Not, however, that Mr. Mapleson's spirit failed him, even when he and Del Puente were compelled to do all the cooking for the company through the long overland route.

The whole book is very amusing and teems with anecdotes, illustrating an experience certainly as rich in variety and in striking contrasts of fortune as that of any of his contemporaries. "Of such anecdotes," he says in conclusion, "I could tell many more."

<sup>1</sup>THE MAPLESON MEMOIRS, 1848-1888. London: Remington & Co.



But I feel I have already taken up too much of the reader's time and having several important projects on hand which will take up the whole of mine, I must now conclude."

#### THE GEORGE CATLIN INDIAN GALLERY.<sup>1</sup>

A REPORT of unusual merit and importance has lately been issued by the Smithsonian Institution. It was prepared at the instance of Prof. Spencer F. Baird by Thomas Donaldson, a warm hearted Philadelphian, who, sinking his own personality and the enormous work necessary to complete the undertaking, has brought George Catlin forward in the most prominent light, and has declared with truth that this is a just tribute to one of the most indefatigable workers who ever entered the field of ethnology and collected material and attacked some of its many important problems.

A glance at the early surroundings that gave him that personal bias that led Catlin up to his life-work, shows him standing at his mother's knee listening to her thrilling narration of the Massacre of Wyoming; he was fired by the stories of hunters and trappers; the mysterious bones and arrowheads were being ploughed up in his father's fields; all these excited his youthful imagination and left an indelible impression upon him.

He early evinced a taste for art, and as he grew older this talent and tendency overrode other pursuits and we find him in 1823 at 27 years of age an artist of rising note in Philadelphia, with Sully, Neagle, Wilson, and Peale as his friends. The quest for a special field in which to distinguish himself in his art seems to have awakened in him that which was early in his life inspired by the romance that weaves around the fate of the Indian, but which is stated in these terms in 1861: "In the midst of my success (in 1829 as a painter), I again resolved to use my art, and so much of the labors of my future life as might be required in rescuing from oblivion the looks and customs of the vanishing races of native man in America, to which I plainly saw they were hastening before the approach and certain progress of civilization." A most noble ambition and an idea far in advance of his time, when only means of ridding the country of Indians and possessing their lands were thought of; much the same words are now used by ethnologists to give a spur to immediate investigation of the language and arts of savage peoples.

For forty-two years he carried on this appointed work with the indomitable resolution that so strongly marked his character. His travels, not without their hardships and sometimes pleasures, carried him here and there in the two Americas, visiting numerous tribes, transferring their features to his canvas, and noting in a necessarily cursory way their customs and arts. What would not Major Powell and modern investigators give to have viewed these people in the degree of simplicity as they were seen by Catlin!

While his pictures are not to be criticised as works of art, because from the conditions many were but sketches, of which he sometimes made several a day, yet Catlin had skill to put on his canvas correctly what he saw, and besides, many have confirmed the fact that they are true to nature. Hence, they are invaluable for their truth, and scientific men can rely on them, though whole tribes in some cases have vanished, or the scattered remnants are huddled with half a dozen similar fragments on some reserve far from whence they once held undisputed sway.

It is a marvel that this collection of 600 pictures that adorns the lecture hall of the National Museum are where they are, for they have crossed the ocean several times and have been through three fires, have been stowed in dust and damp, neglected and lost. Yet these pictures that Mr. Donaldson says are "worth twice their weight in gold" look almost as fresh as when the master's hand applied the colors.

Portraits are in greatest number and there are numerous ensemble scenes, such as dances, councils, etc. The Indian weapons, implements, arts, and architecture have a fair share. There are many landscapes, in most of which the buffalo is a conspicuous object. Mr. Hornaday got much of the picturesque material shown at the recent Exhibition at Cincinnati, illustrating the extermination of this noble beast, from these animated paintings of savage hunting.

This book appears very opportunely, for Catlin's works are out of print and are book rarities. It has already been welcomed to the extent that the first edition has nearly been exhausted. Then it is especially valuable because of the scientific arrangement and the great amount of collateral material incorporated, throwing light on Catlin's work.

To the specialist it may not contain the specific information

<sup>1</sup>The George Catlin Indian Gallery in the U. S. National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, with Memoir and Statistics. By Thomas Donaldson. 240 and vii. pp. 142 pl. 3 portraits and 5 maps. Part of the Report of the U. S. National Museum during the half year ending June 30, 1888, by G. Brown Goode, Assistant Director. 264 and xi. pp. Smithsonian Report, 1888, Part II.

he desires; the ethnologist like Tylor will glean many valuable facts from its pages, while to the thousands interested in ethnology it will prove a real mine and boon. The late Dr. Charles Rau very forcibly said: "while Catlin was not a scientific ethnologist in the modern sense, he has done more than any other man to present the North American Indian in his every day aspect. . . ."

Attention is particularly called to the appendices. The one by Prof. O. T. Mason gives the name of the present tribes, their stock, reservation, and agency. It is the only and most complete classification in print. Major J. W. Powell, Chief of the Bureau of Ethnology, says "there is in course of preparation by the Bureau a linguistic classification of North American tribes, with an atlas exhibiting their priscan homes, or the regions inhabited by them at the time they were discovered by white men." This gigantic work, however, will take years for completion.

Another appendix shows the expenses of the Indian Department from 1776 to 1886 to have been, in round numbers, 233 millions of dollars, while the wars have cost almost 1,000 millions!

The census returns decide the vexed question of the decrease of the Indian. A careful consideration of statistics shows that they have been becoming fewer at a steady rate since 1822, though Major Powell is quoted as asserting some years ago a contrary opinion, which, no doubt, now he would withdraw. The reports from Canada and Mexico also show a decrease in those countries. The compilation of vital statistics is a much easier matter now than formerly; more than one third of the natives are on reserves in Indian Territory.

Finally, we can say with Mr. Donaldson: "Contemplating his labors and their results, surely George Catlin will not be forgotten amongst men."

WALTER HOUGH.

U. S. National Museum.

#### WRECKED.

DEEP in the forest glades,  
Where leafy welcomes wooed our wandering way,  
Once blent our shadows in the dallying shades  
That round us lay.  
Thenceforth, of fate estranged,  
Each day beholds our widowed forms apart:  
The word, the glance, the gesture, coldly changed,  
As heart to heart.  
But cometh night to hide  
Life-wrecks, far drifted in the noonday sun,  
And lo, our shadows, in the sombre tide,  
Again are one!

JOHN B. TABB.

St. Charles College, Md.

#### REVIEWS.

MASTER VIRGIL, THE AUTHOR OF THE ÆNEID, as he seemed in the Middle Ages. A Series of Studies, by J. S. Tunison. Pp. vii. and 230. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.

EVERY reader of Dante must be aware that Virgil stands in a peculiar relation to the thought of the middle ages. In accepting the great Latin poet as his guide through hell and purgatory, the Italian poet was but adding one more to the many recognitions which the Christian world extended to him as a spiritual force of permanent significance. There was, it is true, a preparation for this in the Pagan literature of a preceding time. In the weaker and more superstitious ages, when Rome was tottering in its fall, a literature no longer capable of rivaling Virgil's greatness began to ascribe a special significance to the smallest detail in his poems, and to canonize even his faults. Macrobius, in his treatment of the Æneid, is rival and forerunner of the most extravagant Dan- tists in their handling of the "Divine Comedy." And the Christian world was prepared to continue this tradition by its discovery that the Sixth Eclogue contained a prophecy of the birth of Christ and of the golden age of the world thus ushered in. From these beginnings came a mighty growth of legend and fable, in which the Mantuan figures as a master of hidden science, a great magician, a champion of the Faith against Nero.

Mr. Tunison has followed the various threads of these mythical traditions back to their sources as far as accessible literature permits. He has had the aid of the monographs of Comparetti and Zappert, but he has employed these simply in helping him to find the sources, and not as a substitute for that kind of work. And he has collected into his handsome volume a great amount of curious information, which will be of value to the student of folklore, as well as the student of Latin literature, and also the lover of queer and out-of-the-way information. We miss two things in his book. The first is the reference to those elements in Virgil's

personal character which have tended to perpetuate his influence. He and Euripides are the two modern poets in ancient literature,—poets whose verse is touched by modern subjectivity and the passion of sympathy with pain and sorrow. The Christian middle ages loved him because they found themselves in him as not in Horace or Juvenal. The second omission is a reference to the part he plays in the sacred poetry of the middle ages, especially the hymn so beautifully rendered by Dean Stanley, which represents Paul as weeping at the tomb of Virgil because he had not lived to welcome the good news of redemption. How much more Christian than the words of the stern Jansenist schoolmaster: "Now, boys, to-day we begin the *Æneid* of Virgil. He was a Pagan, and he is in hell for writing this book; but if you read it obediently, the merit of that obedience will help you to heaven."

Mr. Tunison has prefixed to his work an excellent analysis of chapters, to each of which he appends his list of authorities. But no analysis can replace an index, and that he has omitted to give.

**PEN AND INK.** Papers on Subjects of more or less Importance. By Brander Matthews. New York and London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1888.

The skill of the French cook, who, with an onion, a bone, and a pinch of salt, could turn out a savory dish, is as nothing to the skill of the true artist with "pen and ink." The historian is the plain cook, more or less accomplished as the case may be. The sirloins and joints, the "pieces of resistance" of literature are his prerogative. The novelist kneads his figures out of solid paste and may season and sweeten with a lavish hand. To the poet belong the fruit and flowers, but the writer of the little essay, the maker of something out of nothing, has little more to exercise his skill upon than the French cook,—the bare bone of an idea, the salt of his wit, and the onion of his taste,—and behold the triumph of "pen and ink." With such slight materials Mr. Matthews has made an attractive little book. From the slenderest of texts he has furnished some very pleasant dissertations, "essaylets," as he calls them, the most substantial of which is the one on "Two Latter-day Lyricists,"—Mr. Frederick Locker and Mr. Austin Dobson. Mr. Austin Dobson he thinks is more appreciated, and has a larger following in America than in England, partly, perhaps, from the American readiness to recognize and adopt a "good thing" when they see it. But the cleverest and most compact of these essays is that on the "True Theory of the Preface," a few sentences from which we will quote, for the sake of its valuable, practical advice to young authors.

"In the Preface the author sets a sample of his text as in a show-window. In the Preface the author strikes the key-note of his work. Therefore must the good Preface set forth the supreme excellence of the book it should precede, as a brass band goes before a regiment. As delicately, and yet as unhesitatingly as the composer knows how, the Preface should sound triumphant pæns of exultant self-praise. There is no need that a preface should be long . . . but it must be strong enough to do its allotted work. Now, its allotted work—and we are laying bare the secret of the true theory of the preface—is to furnish to the unwilling critic a syllabus or a skeleton of the criticism which you wish to have him write. The thoughtless may declare that "nobody reads a preface;" but there could be no more fatal blunder. Perhaps that impalpable entity, the general reader, may skip it not infrequently; but that tangible terror, the critic, never fails to read the Preface, even when he reads no further. . . . It should be a private letter from the author to the critic, indicating the lines upon which he (the author) would like him (the critic) to frame an opinion and declare a judgment. A good Preface is like the trick modern magicians use when, under pretence of giving us free device, they force us to draw the card they have already determined upon. So if a book have a proper preface, contrived with due art, the critic cannot choose but write about it as the author wishes."

Most of these papers have already appeared in more or less complete shape in some of the many forms of periodical literature, but those who have enjoyed Mr. Matthews's clever yet carefully finished fragments will be glad to have them collected in good shape. The names of the publishers are sufficient guarantee for the simple yet excellent finish of the letter-press.

**WITH SA'DI IN THE GARDEN.** By Sir Edwin Arnold. Boston: Roberts Bros. 1888.

In this volume Sir Edwin Arnold intersperses a translation of the third chapter of the "Bostân" of the Persian poet Sa'di, through a dialogue held in the Garden of the Taj Mahal at Agra, the personages being a Muslim sage who reads the poem, an English "saheb," and two dancing girls of great beauty and accomplishments. Argamand, the beloved queen, whose memory and ashes are enshrined in this most marvellous of tombs, was herself

a Persian, so there is a certain fitness in the poem being read in the beautiful garden of her last rest, but the rhythmically falling measures of Sa'di are imbedded in a quantity of blank verse that neither illuminates nor adds to the interest of the "Book of Love." The Persian verse is written in the peculiar quatrains that have become so familiar to English readers in Fitzgerald's translation of the *Rubâiyât*. But the two Eastern poets were very unlike in temperament. Sa'di, like most of the other Persian poets, was one of those *sufis* at whom Omar Khayyâm scoffs, and he was the hero of fourteen pilgrimages to Mecca. He traveled widely in the East, and in the course of his wanderings was captured by the Crusaders and sent to work in the trenches before Tripoli. Here he was ransomed by a rich merchant who gave him his daughter in marriage, a gift which seems to have diminished the value of the poet's freedom, for the lady's temper was very violent, and the union was an unhappy one. When about sixty years old Sa'di retired to a hermit's cell near Schiraz, his birthplace, and led there a life of pious contemplation till he died at a very advanced age. His most brilliant work was the "Gulistan" or Rose Garden, a collection of philosophical maxims, anecdotes, and epigrams. The "Bostân," or Fruit Garden, is a series of detached poems, pervaded by the mystical and religious fervors of the poet's later days. Some of the verses in the "Bostân" read like Christian meditations and are another illustration of how the human soul is raised to the same heights of ecstasy and renunciation by an ardent belief.

"Oh! if to God thou hast propinquity,  
For no wealth heedless of His service be!  
If lovers true of God shall ask from God  
Aught except God, that's infidelity."

"Yet fear not, lost in God, dead earth to be;  
He will remake, when He unmaketh thee!  
There shoots no green blades from the wheat and barley  
Till seed is laid in dust of husbandry."

"That which doth set thee free from self shall bring  
Nearness to God! This is a subtle thing  
The selfless only know. Not self-possessing  
Art thou thine own, but self-abandoning."

The Persian poet's verses would be much more impressive if they were not perpetually interrupted by remarks and anecdotes from the irrepressible "saheb" and Gulbadan and Dilazâr, who are by no means such spiritual persons.

**WOOD BLOOMS.** By John Vance Cheney. Pp. xii. and 222. New York: Frederick A. Stokes & Brother. 1888.

The fact that only a year has passed since the publication of Mr. Cheney's "Thistle-Drift" would seem to indicate that this new volume of his poetry is not composed entirely of new work. No doubt those of his verses which have appeared in *The Century*, and elsewhere, since the publication of his former book, are included in the present volume; but it is also probable that, in addition to these, many earlier pieces which were left out of the first collection are now permitted to appear.

The author of "Wood Blooms"—though it is forty years today (December 29th) since his birth in Grovelands, N. Y.,—has several things to learn in the art of versification, and more than one to unlearn. He should know that a line is almost always weakened by the omission of an article, or by the elision of an entire syllable, or, in fact, by the taking of any poetic license whatsoever; and that consequently he should not have begun "A Day Dream" in this manner: "'Twas not 'neath spectral moon." Neither should he attempt to force such a verse (?) as "Glut them on his plumpness, suck dry his bones," into a sonnet line, as he has done in "Death's,"—nor mix metaphors as in "The Three Ages," where he has written:—

"With dagger words he stabbed at fortune's wiles  
As they were bodies to be whittled down."

Flaws of this kind are less numerous in Mr. Cheney's first book, and there is also greater spontaneity and more of what Miss Baylor calls "singing quality" in its contents. Yet in this "The Guest," "Spring Songs," "On the Upper Ways," "A Saint of Yore," and the fine sonnet "The Old," are all excellent in their different ways. "A Wish" is as quotable as anything in the book:

A WISH.

"One slowly toils his way to fame,  
And wins, well earned, an envied name;  
One vaults into eternity—  
Got of the gods, strong-limbed is he."

"A few do quench ambition's fire  
With ample mantle of the sire;  
The thousands ask, when time's no more,  
Safe guidance to the Golden Shore."



"When my poor self is laid away,  
I would the shepherd boy might say,  
—Tuning his pipe less merrily—  
'A bough turns sore in Arcady.'"

Mr. Cheney deserves credit for his cheeriness, his homely common sense, and for his purity of thought. His song-shafts fly pretty close to the mark, when he does not aim too high; and while his poems often suggest the work of more famous authors, they at the same time reveal an individuality which is perhaps as striking as that of any of America's younger singers.

**FROM FLAG TO FLAG.** A Woman's Adventures and Experiences in the South during the War, in Mexico, and in Cuba. By Eliza McHatton-Ripley. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

**A BLOCKADED FAMILY.** Life in Southern Alabama during the Civil War. By Parthenia Antoinette Hague. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

These volumes are additions to the rapidly increasing number which compose the distinctly Southern literature. Both relate, in part or entirely, to the war time. Both are by women. Both are interesting and real. Referring to the second one first, it is a description in detail of the life of families in the Gulf States, distant from the scene of active military operations, during the years of the great rebellion. The feature that characterizes it is its picture of the hardships of the people shut off from the supplies of manufactured goods which their merchants had been accustomed to obtain from the North. The famine of wheat flour, of woolen and cotton cloth, leather, shoes, hats, bonnets, thread, needles, buttons, pins, paper, salt, and a thousand articles of common use, began in a few months after the war opened. The blockade was complete; the South was isolated. It had been an agricultural country only, and knew not the industrial arts. If any one, even the most prejudiced opponent of diversified industry, could read this account and not perceive the absolute truth of the proposition that no country can be sure of its political independence unless it is independent in industry, we know not how any argument could reach him. The book is a little tedious, and there are no very vivid passages in it, but it is an excellent addition to our records of social life in the war times, its catalogue of simple details being useful, if not exciting.

Mrs. Ripley's narrative is animated and interesting from beginning to end. Her husband, a Louisiana sugar planter, whose handsome estate, Arlington, lay on the Mississippi, close by Baton Rouge, was a Confederate in sympathies, though at the Charleston convention of 1860 he was one of the two Louisiana delegates who did not withdraw when the Extremists' platform was substituted for that of the Northern men. The operations of the national gunboats on the Mississippi after New Orleans was taken, the fighting at Baton Rouge, (in August, 1862), and other military movements in the neighborhood, broke up all peaceful living at Arlington, and the family set off for Texas, as many other Louisiana people did about that time. In Texas, gathering and shipping cotton, etc., and at Matamoras, on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, they remained until the closing hours of the struggle, and then went to Cuba, where for several years subsequently the husband was extensively engaged in sugar planting. To the Cuban experiences more than half the book is appropriated, and they will be found not merely entertaining but very interesting, the details of social life and industrial methods on the "Ever Faithful" Island being something quite out of the ordinary routine of our books.

**PARADOXES OF A PHILISTINE.** By Wm. S. Walsh. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1888.

The fact that most of the papers collected in this volume were written to fill a department in a popular monthly does not make them any less worthy of their present setting. Mr. Walsh seldom writes without having something to say that is worth saying; and he is too true an artist to write at all without expressing himself in vigorous and graceful English. For these reasons, the appearance of this new volume from his pen is a noteworthy literary event; and one which, taken in connection with the recent publication of Miss Repplier's "Books and Men," shows that Philadelphia is quietly pushing her claims for recognition in the world of letters.

It may be unknown to some who will read this notice that a number of Mr. Walsh's earlier books—notably the series entitled "The Literary Life"—were signed "William Shepard;" and it is to be hoped that those who were charmed by the felicitous style in which these were written will learn that "William Shepard" and William S. Walsh are one and the same.

In the character of the "Philistine" he is very entertaining; the "Paradoxes" being devoted largely to protests against the claims of genius ("with a big G") to the blind adoration of humanity. He believes,—and makes his readers agree with him,—that

"middle way is best" in most things: preaching the gospel of the Commonplace with much sincerity and fervor. As a writer Mr. Walsh is, above all else, interesting; and, without attempting to be profound, is always thoughtful and impressive. Particularly suggestive is the paper on "The Sense of Pre-existence;" while the one headed "the Mistakes We All Make" is a noble, kindly, almost tender sermon on that Grace which is greater than Faith and Hope. "A Plea for Plagiarism," with its remarkable "Little Essay on the Commonplace," is extremely clever, and has a pleasant surprise in store for those who have not read it.

C. H. L.

**THE RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD.** An Outline of the Great Religious Systems. By David James Burrell, D. D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication. 1888.

It is a sign of the times that even the religious publication societies are taking up the problems of comparative religion. First the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge published a series of brief and excellent monographs by accepted authorities; and now the Presbyterian Board of Publication issues a popular manual of the subject. The author of course asserts the principle that Christianity is a finality, the absolute religion, and the only one which gives an adequate idea of God. But while denying that "one religion is as good as another," and that Christianity has been in any sense an evolution from previous faiths, he distinctly abandons the old theory that there is no good in any other religion, all alike being the work of the devil. He seems to discriminate between the evil and the good in each, and at the same time to show the inadequacy of each to meet the human need of salvation from sin. We think he fails to do justice to the New Testament idea that each in its way was a providential preparation of a people to accept a fuller light.

Dr. Burrell is not a believer in the doctrine that the heathen are shut out from the divine light. He at least has hopes of many of them, but in the line of Joseph Cook's theory, which is the one expressly condemned in the Westminster Confession.

We think he has not always made the best of his subject, even from his own point of view. The contrast of "Balder is dead!" in the faith of our fathers, and "Christ is risen!" in our own, might have been made more of. But it is a compact, readable, and useful volume.

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

**ANOTHER** of the Natural History Series, prepared for the Presbyterian Board of Publication by Ella Rodman Church, is "Some Useful Animals." The text, in the form of dialogues, is well adapted to the purpose of awakening interest in dumb animals and care for them. But the woodcuts are thirty years behind the age, both in drawing and engraving. The religious publication societies are too neglectful in this matter, which certainly is unwise in them, though it may be presumed that considerations of economy are often controlling factors in the matter.

Miss Amanda M. Douglas has some rather striking merits as a novelist. She is agreeably liberal and takes a shrewd interest in practical, helpful affairs, her books having the natural tone of the popular works of E. P. Roe. Messrs. Lee & Shepard are issuing an uniform edition of the Douglas novels to which they have added "A Modern Adam and Eve." The motive of this book is somewhat similar to that of "Raymond Kershaw," heretofore noticed,—the leading characters making a brave and successful effort at self-support by fruit growing, etc. The book is both interesting and wholesome.

"The Birds' Christmas Carol," by Kate Douglass Wiggin, (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), tells prettily the story of a "Christmas Child" as its fond parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bird, call it. The baby came at Christmas, and is happily named "Carol." The book, for its part, came late, and so did not secure place among holiday notices, but in its touching sweetness it is good for any time in the year.

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

**IT** is announced that Mrs. Humphrey Ward has been writing an "Answer" to the various criticisms on "Robert Elsmere."

The Putnam edition of the writings of Washington, prepared by Worthington C. Ford, has been fully subscribed for. There will be fourteen handsome volumes.

Miss Olive Schreiner, ("Ralph Iron"), author of the much-talked of "Story of an African Farm," is soon to publish a series of allegories on marriage, the ethical bearings of sex, and like subjects.

A volume of selections from Wordsworth, edited with notes by A. J. George, will soon be brought out by D. C. Heath & Co.

Signora Sofia Santanelli has translated into Italian Mr. T. W. Higginson's "History of the United States."

An important historical work soon to appear in England is Prof. J. R. Seeley's book on the International Relations of the Eighteenth Century.

"Bible Characters," by Charles Reade; "For Faith and Freedom," by Walter Besant; "Choice Cookery," by Catherine Owen; "Modern Science in Bible Lands," by Sir J. W. Dawson; "Our English," by Prof. A. S. Hill of Harvard; and "A Latin Dictionary for Schools," by Prof. Charlton T. Lewis, will come soon from Messrs. Harpers' press.

"The Pilgrim's Progress" has been translated into the language of Zanzibar. It was partly prepared by the late Bishop Steere, and is said to be, by necessity, rather an adaptation than a translation.

Many more sets of the Bigelow "Franklin" might have been sold if they had been manufactured, and the price has considerably advanced. There is now a call for a popular edition.

The correspondence between the Princess Lieven and Earl Grey during the last years of the reign of George IV. and the whole of the reign of William IV. is in preparation, and is expected to prove very interesting reading. Apart from their social interest, the letters deal with political matters of high consequence, with the Greek war of independence, the Russian campaign against Turkey in 1820, the creation of the Belgian monarchy, the whole period of Earl Grey's Administration, the period of the Reform Bill, etc.

Adolph Julien's Biography of Hector Berlioz, illustrated, will be issued soon by Macmillan & Co.

A permanent library, composed solely of books written by women, is to be established in Paris.

"Scottish Poets in America, with Biographical and Critical Notes" is the title of a work compiled and edited by John D. Ross, to be published by Messrs. Pagan & Ross, New York.

New volumes in the "Story of the Nations" series (Putnam's) will be: "Mexico," by Susan Hale, and "Phœnicia," by Canon George Rawlinson. The firm have also in preparation two new volumes in the "Great Cities of the Republic" series—"Washington," by Charles Burr Todd, and "Boston," by Arthur Gilman.

The authorities of the British Museum are preparing a "Stuart Collection" of MSS., seals, and books, to be placed on exhibition.

"The Australian in London and America," is the title of a new work by Mr. J. T. Hogan, author of "The Irish in Australia," to be published this month by Ward & Downey, London.

Queen Victoria is desirous that Sir Theodore Martin should undertake an elaborate biography of the Emperor Frederick, on the scale of his "Life of the Prince Consort." London *Truth* hopes, however, that the Queen will not be so "injudicious" as to confide this work to any Englishman, as it is sure she would give "great and justifiable offense" in Germany by doing so.

There is every sign, in the opinion of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, of a continued revival of trade in the literary world. The present publishing season it declares to be an exceptionally good one. Not only have a very large number of books been produced, but more to the purpose, the public has been more ready than of recent years to buy them.

Dr. Samuel Smiles, who "discovered" Robert Dick and Thomas Edwards, two Scottish geniuses, and made their merits known to the public, has now found a man of talent and of lowly birth in Germany whose life he is engaged in writing.

Under the title of "English Men of Action," Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are about to publish a series of biographies. It will be confined to Britons who have, in any capacity, at home or abroad, by land or sea, been conspicuous by their public services. The series will begin in February next, and will be continued monthly. The first volume will be General Gordon, by Col. Sir William Butler, and the following are in course of preparation: Sir John Hawkwood, by Mr. F. Marion Crawford; Henry V., by Rev. A. J. Church; Warwick, the King-maker, by Mr. C. W. Oman; Drake, by Mr. J. A. Froude; Raleigh, by Mr. W. Stebbing; Stratford, by Mr. H. Trail; Montrose, by Mr. Mowbray Morris; Monk, by Mr. Julian Corbett; Dempier, by Mr. W. Clark Russell; Capt. Cook, by Mr. Walter Besant; Clive, by Col. Sir Charles Wilson; Warren Hastings, by Sir Albert Lyall; Sir John Moore, by Col. Maurice; Wellington, by Mr. George Hooper; Livingstone, by Mr. Thomas Hughes; and Lord Lawrence, by Sir Richard Temple.

#### PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

IT is announced that Ginn & Co. have purchased *The New Princeton Review* and will incorporate it in the *Political Science Quarterly* already owned by them. Prof. Sloane, editor of the *New Princeton*, will be associated in the new departure.

Mr. Huntingdon Smith has severed his connection with *The Literary World* to become literary editor of the *Boston Beacon*.

The *Paris Journal des Debats*, established in 1789, is to publish this year a history of its career,—first in the newspaper, and afterwards in book shape.

*The Cosmopolitan* will publish this year five illustrated articles by W. W. Thomas, Jr., late Minister to Sweden, on "Sweden and the Swedes;" a series of papers on "Italian Cities" (illustrated); and a Chinese historical novel called "Woo Chi Teen, the Celestial Empress."

*The Andover Review* announces for 1889 a series of papers on sociological subjects by Rev. Dr. J. T. Duryea.

Kneass's *Philadelphia Magazine for the Blind*, now in its twenty-second year, and *Music Journal for the Blind*, now in its thirteenth year, make appeal for an endowment fund to give them stability and a wider circulation. The publisher may be addressed at No. 219 Church street, Philadelphia.

"Transactions in Hearts" is the title of a novel by Edgar Saltus, to be published in full in the next number of *Lippincott*.

#### ART NOTES.

THE municipal government of New York city is to increase its contribution to the annual income of the Metropolitan Museum \$10,000, making the total amount \$25,000 yearly. The condition of this additional gift from the city is that the Museum shall be kept open two evenings in each week, free, that the people who are at work during the day may have an opportunity to study the collections and share in the benefits of the institution.

The question of opening the Museum on Sunday is still under discussion, though the indications are that it will have to be decided adversely. Certain bequests, accepted by the Trustees in former years, when the institution was young and dependent, expressly stipulated that the door shall not be open on Sunday, and these stipulations must be observed. It has been suggested that as the only penalty would be the forfeiting of the bequests, the matter might be settled by incurring the loss and making it good by a subscription raised for that purpose, but legal advisers hold that in accepting the bequests the Trustees covenanted to carry out the terms of the same, and the courts would enjoin them so to do if the issue should be tried.

Mr. William T. Walters of Baltimore has been instrumental in organizing a loan exhibition of Antoine Louis Barye's sculpture, to be held at the American Art Galleries in New York next March. The object of the exhibition is to promote interest in Barye's work, and to encourage subscriptions to a memorial fund for a monument to him, to be erected in Paris. A similar exhibition will be held in Paris, concurrently, and American connoisseurs and lovers of art on both sides of the Atlantic are pledging liberal contributions both to the exhibitions and to the fund. It is believed there are examples enough in this country to make the New York collection fairly representative of the artist. Mr. Walters himself has proofs of the most important bronzes and a considerable number of water-color studies and pictures. Thanks to him, also, the Corcoran Gallery in Washington has a fine Barye collection; and there are many single pieces in private hands in New York, Boston, and Chicago. The undertaking is worthy of all encouragement and should meet with prompt and sympathetic support.

An exhibition in which American painters are well represented is now being held at the National Academy of Design. It is the collection made by Mr. Isaac Waeller, and contains a number of the most noticeable American pictures painted during the past twenty years. Conspicuous among these are the well-known "Low Tide," by E. E. Simmons, which received the first of the \$2,000 prizes awarded by the American Art Association, and "All Broke Up," one of characteristic *genre* that have made the fame of J. G. Brown. Three important works are "The Happy Omen," "The Roman Aviary," and "Pandora," by E. H. Blashfield, whose classic subjects seem to have met with special favor from Mr. Waeller. George H. Boughton's "Wayside Devotion" reappears on the same wall where it attracted marked attention at the National Academy spring exhibition, seven years ago. It is a Brittany peasant scene, and in the Waeller gallery was hung pendant to Edgar Ward's "Brittany Washerwomen," as it does in the present exhibition.

S. J. Guy, E. L. Henry, Percy Moran, Humphrey Moon, and



C. H. Grant are represented by figure subjects. The conspicuous names among the landscape painters are those of George Inness, James and William Hart, J. P. Murphy, Arthur Quartly, David Johnson, and others.

The collection is not exclusively American, as there is a considerable proportion of work by European artists, mostly those better known to the passing generation as Edouard Frere, Schreyer, and the Dusseldorf men, but the interest of the Exhibition resides in the fact that it affords the best illustration of the progress of painting in this country since the war that is now accessible to the public.

Among the changes of the New Year season one to be noted with regret by lovers of art in Philadelphia, is the removal of Prosper L. Senat to Moorestown, N. J. Mr. Senat's studio in the Baker Building has been for years one of the centres of what life art can boast of in this city, and his successes as a painter of marine subjects and latterly as a painter-etcher of rare ability, have given much encouragement to those who have hoped that artistic excellence would always find appreciation in this community. An artist is necessarily a cosmopolitan and Mr. Senat is as much at home on the coast of Holland or New England as on his native heath. The sense of regret which his departure will occasion is therefore not on his account but on account of the vacant place his going leaves in this community where he has upheld the honor of his guild with credit and distinction for the past ten years. The establishment of a new home in Moorestown doubtless implies the opening of a better outlet for work in New York than has been found here.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

THE *Revue Scientifique* (Nov. 24) reproduces an address made by Prof. Theodore Meynert, before the Congress of German Naturalists held last year. The address is interesting in a general way, as showing how widely the Darwinian idea of the strictly natural or animal origin of the moral nature of man has been accepted by German naturalists. The paper is entitled "Brain and Sociability," developing the theory of the concomitant increase of the brain in power and of the social instincts in strength. The very young child and the savage, says the Professor, are creatures whose natures are combinations of sense-impressions, of motions, pleasures and pains, and whose sole object is the preservation of self. Upon this nature, on the development of the faculties of observation and representation, is built another, which unites the individual to other men and which is made up of social instincts. The anterior portion of the brain in its size and power is a gauge of the strength and effectiveness of those instincts.

Dr. T. Wesley Mills, Professor of Physiology at McGill University, has written an article (*Popular Science Monthly*) upon the causes of baldness, making some new suggestions on this interesting topic. Dr. Mills thinks that the ordinary theory—that the hair-bulbs become weakened by atrophy caused by a constriction (due to tight-fitting hats) of the blood-vessels which spread over the scalp—is unable to fully explain all the phenomena of baldness. It has been noticed of course that women seldom suffer from baldness, and this again has been attributed to their avoidance of any tight band about their head. Dr. Mills advances the theory that overwork of the brain influences the cephalic circulation in the way of making the blood-supply of the scalp insufficient, thus impairing the vitality of the hair-bulbs. This position the doctor supports by referring to the intimate connection between the arteries of the brain and the venous system of the outside of the head, and he regards baldness as a protest of nature against the irregular and excessive work and worry of a restless age.

In regard to the injurious consequences upon the nervous system entailed by residence in cities amid continuous noise, the London *Invention* says: "It is doubtful if any nervous system ever becomes so indurated to this incessant strain as to feel no harm. The yelling of steam whistles, the hiss of steam pipes, the rattle and clash of wheels on stone covered streets, the rumble of street cars, the clangor of bells, the howling of hucksters, keep up a condition in which a healthy nervous system of natural strength and sensitiveness is impossible. And there is not one of these agencies that is not suppressed more or less completely in most of the great cities of the world. In Berlin heavy wagons are not allowed on certain streets. In Paris any cart load of rattling material must be fastened until it cannot rattle. Munich allows no bells on street cars. In Philadelphia, church bells have been held a nuisance in certain neighborhoods by judicial ruling. Steam whistles are forbidden in nearly all the larger cities of this country and Europe. Our city might make a trial of one or two cases as an experiment."

*Science* for last week publishes comparative profile maps of the two canal routes at the Isthmus of Panama. These maps show the amount of excavation which is yet to be done upon the Panama Canal to be far in excess of the amount to be excavated to complete the Nicaragua Canal from ocean to ocean. It is anticipated that the failure of the Panama Canal Company to obtain relief from the French Government will necessitate suspension of work in some parts and a general reduction of the working force. This will enable the Nicaragua Canal agents to begin to recruit the small army of workmen which, it is expected, will be needed in a short time to commence operations. The maps further show that active work has been going on throughout almost the whole forty-two miles of the Panama route, the largest amount being accomplished on the first twelve miles of comparative level after leaving Aspinwall. So much money has been expended that it is not probable that the Panama route will ever be abandoned; but the recent financial crisis of the Company will help, we think, to awaken those interested to a salutary sense of the real magnitude of the undertaking, and an adequate idea of the engineering difficulties which are still to be overcome.

The English newspapers contain accounts of what, when it is completed, will be the largest electric light plant in the world. The London Electric Supply Corporation contemplates a station which will have the capacity to supply 1,000,000 lights with electricity. Engines of 13,000 horse power are being constructed, and the dynamos (each supplying 25,000 lights) are the largest ever in use. The main cable leading from the station has a diameter of 2½ inches. There are a number of central distributing stations where the potential is lowered to that necessary for the lamps.

A novel suggestion for a fire-proof curtain for theatres has been made and carried into effect in Sweden. This curtain consists of two canvas curtains, steeped in a water-proof compound. These are joined in such a way as to admit a thin layer of water between them. This device was practically tested in the town of Malmo, where the operators were unable to ignite the curtain.

#### NAMES IN FICTION.<sup>1</sup>

"MAMMA is writing: Mr. and Mrs. Talbot Twysden request the honor of Admiral and Mrs. Davis Locker's company at dinner on Thursday the so-and-so."

If a man (as Steerforth's friend would have said) ever had any time to himself, which in the case of man that lives by writing is a wild and impossible supposition, he might find less interesting amusements in literary *bric-à-brac* than the making of a small collection not exactly of "beauties" but of literary passages, each of which should exhibit some literary peculiarity in its most perfect form. It would be a delightful and endless pastime for a lazy old age, inasmuch as it never could be finished, never could be exactly satisfactory, and yet would always be pleasing. And the *virtuoso*, in the English not the foreign sense of the word, would have a long search before he could find an example to beat the sentence of Thackeray's quoted above as an effort in a certain kind of fictitious nomenclature. Scott's Kennaquhair runs it hard, at least for English ears; but out of the works of Thackeray and Scott there is nothing so good, and in them there are few things of the kind, if any, better. The excellent Admiral and his wife, moreover, supply a capital text for some little discourse on the literary equivalent of what the technical language of heraldry calls *armes parlantes*:—to wit, names which speak the character.

When we turn to the beginnings of the English novel it so happens, by a rather curious chance, that each of the three persons who are commonly and rightly regarded as founders adopted one, and for the most part one only, of the three possible systems of naming characters. Bunyan pushes the "speaking-name" to its farthest possibilities, yet, oddly enough, without any of the reproach which not unjustly attends Sir Politick Wouldbe and Sir Novelty Fashion. The illustrious Aphra Behn followed the Greeks of whom she knew nothing, and the French romancers of the Scudéry school, of whom she knew much, in selecting the most flowery names she could find. Defoe, in accordance with his general principle, simply took the ordinary names of ordinary English life where he had occasion for names at all, though now and then, as in Roxana, he had no objection to a sounding stage name. And these three practices prevail throughout the eighteenth century, little or no attempt being made at that combination of a possible and ordinary sounding name with a double meaning, which Thackeray brought to such extraordinary perfection. Nothing could be much better than Gulliver, but Swift did not pursue the vein far. Fielding, as we should expect, mixes up all the kinds, giving indeed to most of his principal persons ordinary names, but frequently adopting the stage-style (as in Allworthy, Colonel

<sup>1</sup>From *Macmillan's Magazine* for December.

Courtly, Mrs. Slipslop, Tom Whipwell the coachman, Snap, Bagshot, and so forth), admitting Lindamiras, and Bellarmine when he feels disposed, and perhaps we may say adding a new kind—that of the purely grotesque name with no particular undermeaning, such as Trulliber, Blifil, Hebberts, which his imitator, Dickens, was afterwards to carry to such lengths. Richardson takes ordinary, or at least actual and well-known names, but always with an inclination towards finery in his choice. Sterne is almost wholly fantastic, without any particular tendency, except in grotesque Latin, to one particular kind of fantasy. Smollett, so like and so unlike Fielding in other ways, maintains in this particular way the same likeness of dissimilarity. Truncheon, Hatchway, Pipes, —these are instances of quite the infancy of the art, and Tom Whipwell (which at least sounds like a possible name) is a long way ahead of them. The minor novelists of the century remained equally within the circumscription of the ancient lines. Miss Burney never attempts the making of names in our sense: that eccentric person the author of "John Buncle," who, after being perhaps somewhat overpraised, seems to have sunk into unmerited reverses, has also little if anything of the kind; the eminent Bage, whom few people would ever have read if it had not pleased Sir Walter to put him in the Ballantyne novels, has less: Dr. Zachary Caudle is the nearest attempt that Sir Fretful Plagiary (so gods him call, but he is known to men as Cumberland) makes in the edifying work called "Henry;" while the "Man of Feeling" and Mrs. Radcliffe also yield nothing to the inquirer. When the century ended men had got little, if at all, beyond Sir Politick Wouldbe and Sir Novelty Fashion, except for the, in both senses, almost inimitable nomenclature of Bunyan and a few hints in Fielding.

We have called Bunyan inimitable in both senses, and so he is. Although the public attention has been too much concentrated on the "Pilgrim's Progress," one need go no further than to the universally known passages of that book to see at one what can be done with simple ticketing, and how difficult, if not impossible, it is to do it again. The ever memorable consultation of the jury at Faithful's trial is enough for our purpose, and surely it may again be quoted.

"And first among themselves, Mr. Blindman, the foreman, said, 'I see clearly that this man is a heretic.' Then said Mr. No-Good, 'Away with such a fellow from the earth!' 'Ay,' said Mr. Malice, 'for I hate the very look of him.' Then said Mr. Lovelust, 'I could never endure him.' 'Nor I,' said Mr. Love-loose, 'for he would always be condemning my way.' 'Hang him! hang him!' said Mr. Heady. 'A sorry scrub!' said Mr. High-mind. 'My heart riseth against him,' said Mr. Enmity. 'He is a rogue,' said Mr. Liar. 'Hanging is too good for him,' said Mr. Cruelty. 'Let us despatch him out of the way,' said Mr. Hatelight. Then said Mr. Implacable, 'Might I have all the world given me, could not be reconciled to him; therefore let us bring him in guilty of death.'"

It is probably impossible to find anything better than this old favorite of the public, for, as Mr. Clive Newcome observes with much sense, "You can't beat the best, you know." But there are hundreds of other things in the "Pilgrim's Progress" and the "Holy War" almost as good. Yet good as they are, they are clearly good where they are and not elsewhere. If in an ordinary novel of ordinary manners we met Mr. Lechery, Mrs. Filth, and some others, we should not only (let us trust) be shocked, but should certainly be bored. The same danger attends the less abstract but equally improbable Fashions and Absolutes and Harkaways of the stage. Having made up our minds (generally with much reason) that the stage does not hold up the mirror to nature, we pardon these things and are in a way amused by them. But as for the last eighty years or nearly so, the novel has been supposed to be a copy of life without footlights or scenery or making-up, these simple methods of deception hardly seem to suit it.

It has been hinted that the first successful attempt to unite the advantages of the play upon words with the advantage of not taxing the reader's credulity and good nature too greatly, came from Scott. There had been attempts at the same thing before, no doubt; no man, not even the greatest, ever makes a clear and clean start. But the second person in English literature, the enchanter who could play on every string save one—the string of pure passion—in the whole compass of the instruments of prose and verse, the man whom fools judge to be inferior in this or that kind simply because he was proficient in almost every one, the most inexhaustibly fertile of modern imaginations, the most naturally skillful of modern talents, the hardest worker, the most genial playfellow, the kindest heart, and the largest though the least pretentious brain of two centuries:—in other words and to drop a clumsy and useless periphrase, Sir Walter Scott, seems to have been responsible for refreshing fiction with this as with many other devices. Kinnaquhair has been noticed: Waverley itself, the very beginning of his work, in word-making, is hardly if at all less happy, though it may be feared that a very large proportion of readers are not aware that it is an actual name of old

standing, and perhaps not a very small proportion never connect it with the fact that the hero was "not exactly famous for knowing his own mind." Killancureit is not so happy as Kinnaquhair, but it has to those who are acquainted with the oddities of Scotch nomenclature a certain false air of probability. In Clippurse and Hookem we fall quite back into the older and ruder style. The farms of the excellent Mrs. Margaret Bertram, Singleside, Loverless, Lie-alone, and so forth, rather tend to be classed in this lower form; and with Lieutenant Taffril in the "Antiquary" we retire more than half a century back to the days of Smollett. Indeed, it seems probable that Scott exercised the humor, the fancy, and the wit which he possessed in such remarkable measure in a very haphazard way in this direction as in others. There may be doubts about Fairservice,—it sounds as if it might have been a name; but Captain Coffinkey deserves, I think, place on quite the right side of the line; while the Devil's Dick of Hellgarth, that "gentle Johnstone" who frightened poor Oliver Proudfoot so terribly, and Roger Wildrake, of Squattlessea Mere in the moist county of Lincoln, are far on that side. It might be an abuse of the reader's patience and the editor's space if one were to go through all the beloved volumes in quest of "speaking names"; but, it is quite certain that in Scott they hold a position not to be paralleled before in respect of the two characteristics of being suggestive in meaning and, at the same time, not glaringly impressive or improbable as appellations. Stanchells for a jailer is one of the happiest; Goldthred for a mercer not quite one of the most happy; and the Rev. Simon Chatterly for a clergyman (if Scott had had a little more local knowledge of England he would have improved on this and made it Chatteris, unless by chance he had feared the effect on the Wemyss family) is better than Dr. Quackleben for a doctor. But a comparison of the most felicitous examples among these exhibits clearly enough what is aimed at by the practitioner in this kind: a little gentle appeal to the intelligent and risible faculties without quite such a demand on general credulity as is involved in the allegorical and the stage systems. Except in a dream, one cannot well away with Mrs. Filth, even though she was "as merry as the maids;" it requires at least some share of what some persons are believed to call stage-illusion to make one put up with Captain Absolute. But as for Waverley, the thing, even without the Gazetteer, makes no demand upon credulity at all; and there have been persons, by no means actual fools, who had never even thought of the certainly not deeply-hidden meaning of Newcome. The practice in short gives a kind of additional relish to fiction; it is a little joke between author and reader not pushed obtrusively far, and yet establishing that feeling of mutual understanding and companionship in secrets which is so delightful to the poor human mind.

Scott did not, however, teach this knack to his contemporaries and followers as a rule. Miss Austen has nothing of it; her demure and sedate humor (for there has been one woman who was a humorist) either not needing or not liking this masculine trick. Miss Edgeworth tried it now and then, but not eminently. . . . Captain Marryatt also, when he affects this kind of name at all, takes the straightforward line with his Simples and Easys on the one hand, his Disparts and his Muddles on the other. Dickens, as has been said, struck out for himself or borrowed from Fielding an entirely different trick, that of observing all the most-out-of-way names he could find in real life and using them up for his personages. It has been held, if not established, by inquiries into this sort of thing that not even the most impossible sounding of Dickens' names is an actual coinage or invention.

It is scarcely necessary to go through the other novelists of the second quarter of the century—Theodore Hook, Bulwer, Lever, and the rest. For it may be said with pretty general safety that they made few if any experiments in the more elaborate kind of speaking or punning name, such instances as Jack Brag and Major Monsoon not coming properly within the definition. Disraeli was remarkably happy with Tadpole and Taper, less so with Mrs. Guy Foucey. And so we come to the author who, refining upon Scott and devoting no small part of his own peculiar combination of thought and whim to the matter, has left us examples probably unapproachable and certainly unapproached by any of his own followers. Anthony Trollope, in such things as Sir Warwick Westend for Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. Pessimus Anticant for Carlyle, merely relapsed into comparatively childish things instead of following his model.

As is generally the case with such gifts Thackeray's faculty for allusive nomenclature appeared early but not in its best or most matured condition. It is at first a little rudimentary: Yellowplush for a footman, Deuceace for a gambler, Roundhand for an accountant, though amusing enough are not exactly masterpieces, and are quite of the old school. But their great author developed them, even as he developed the other ancient and somewhat infantile trick of misspelling, into something truly sublime. You may find examples in all stages throughout his works,



in the most unexpected places as well as in the most expected, and sometimes arranged with a symmetrical and systematic whimsicality which is to be found nowhere else. Like certain great artists in other parts he makes his names in sets: beautiful names which lesser men would fondly preserve and repeat throughout a whole book, while this prodigal throws off a whole series of them for a mere parenthesis. Such is "Lady Crackenbury, Mrs. Chippenham, and Madame de la Cruchecassée the French Secretary's wife," where Mrs. Chippenham, thrown in with careless ease between the others, is what an enthusiastic Frenchman of 1830 would have called pyramidal. Who but Thackeray would have taken the trouble or spared the genius to make Thistlewood the family name of the house of Bareacres? or have flung away the Count von Springbock-Hohenlaufen on a single mention? or have not grudged to drop from the current pen "M. de Truffigny (of the Perigord Family)"? Portansherry is not difficult, and is probably a reminiscence of Portanferry, for Thackeray was as true to Scott as it behoved the greatest genius of the second division of the century to be to the greatest genius of the first. But how noble, how plausible, is the house of "Tiler and Feltham, Hatters and Army Accoutrement Makers!" Nor to some tastes at any rate are those instances the least pleasing where the author seems to indulge in pure burlesque without any hidden meaning, as in the assembly which was attended by "the Duchess Dowager of Stilton, Duc de la Gruyère, Marchioness of Cheshire, Marchese Alesandro Strachino, Comte de Brie, Baron Schapzuger [sic. But should it not be 'Schabzieger?'] Chevalier Tosti," etc. And Mrs. Winkworth? And Mrs. "Hardyman who had had out her thirteen sisters, daughters of a country curate, the Rev. Felix Rabbits and married eleven of them, seven high up in the service"? and "Baron Pitchley and Grillsby"? But we should have to construct a complete *index nominum* to the thirteen volumes in order to do justice to this subject. The fancy, never degenerating into antic or mannerism, grew on the author as he lived, and the last paper but one that he ever wrote, the last that he ever finished, has that ingenious list of the Pall Mall Clubs which ends with the Ultratorium, so pleasantly and unexpectedly appended to its neighbor.

There are, it is believed, some excellent persons, and a great many persons not so excellent, to whom this sort of thing brings no comfort, but the reverse. Their objection to these little jokes, these little words to the wise, between author and reader, is part of a still larger objection which is felt by the same persons, or the same class of persons, to anything allusive or cryptic in literary style. Ill-natured but acute judges have set this down as closely connected with the immortal sentence of the immortal Scub, as part of the general resentment which is felt at those who laugh consumedly where the jest is not clearly seen. It is certain, however, that the practice when pursued discreetly gives much delight to other persons who are perhaps better worth consulting; and that the whole subject of names and their appeal is a curious and a rather mysterious one. There is a critic, rather a ferocious critic in his way, who admits quite frankly that he is never a fair judge of any novel where the heroine is named Margaret, not because of any particular associations with any bearer of that name, but because the name itself exercises an automatic fascination on him and disposes him to shameless partiality. The feeling, though it at once found a mistaken expression which gave rise to the long reign of the Lindamiras and the Bellarmine is a perfectly genuine feeling. And as is the romantic attraction, so is the comic. It appeals to those to whom it does appeal and not to others: a sentence which may seem hopelessly unphilosophical, but which really contains the root of all critical philosophy. But though it is impossible to go behind these elemental sorceries, it is possible to draw some inferences about the way in which they usually make themselves most attractive. For instance, except in a very short story, a very capricious or glaring use of the "speaking name" would be usually anything but successful. The names of this class which have been used for constant recurrence in long novels have, since the refinement of the art at any rate, been such as do not violently challenge recognition of their double meaning. Crawley, Newcome, Waverley, all these might be ordinary patronymics, with no agnominal appropriateness to the individual at all. The punning element in them is not teasing or obtrusive; it may suggest itself at right moments and a little heighten the interest, but that is all. If the more fantastic kind of suggestion is introduced, it must be, as we have seen in commenting on Thackeray's practice, introduced but casually and not too much relied on. It is a *hors d'œuvre*, not a dish.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

#### DRIFT.

THE New York Times (Jan. 3) has this editorial paragraph on the Haytian situation:

"The latest reports from Hayti indicate that Admiral Luce was justified in assuming that the opposition to the Government of Légitime is no longer serious. It is evident, however, that the protection of American interests requires a man-of-war or two to be kept in or near Haytian waters as long as the disturbed condition of affairs continues. A squabble between two crowds of colored persons has no interest for us, but a large party of colored persons armed with muskets and calling themselves soldiers are capable of doing much mischief to Americans who have lawful business in Hayti. As the seizure of the *Haytian Republic* shows, these colored persons will steal whatever they can lay their hands on without inquiring into its ownership. If any partly responsible person exercises authority over them they can be prevented from stealing goods of which the lawful owner is backed by a present force representing his own Government. So long as the American flag is seen flying from a man-of-war in the harbor of Port-au-Prince it is not likely that the outrage for which Admiral Luce was sent to exact satisfaction will be repeated."

The Hartford *Courant* (Jan. 1), prints the following despatch from its Washington correspondent,—General H. V. Boynton, we believe:

"The news from Hayti overthrows every claim upon which the President and Secretary Bayard have interfered to seize the steamer *Haytien Republic*. The case is one where the United States, instead of claiming indemnity, will have to pay one. The insurgent cruiser, for she was essentially that, had been engaged for several weeks under a contract with the insurrectionists in carrying armed men and military officers with proclamations of revolution to several ports of Hayti. The steamer landed at Cape Haytien from New York, sold a cannon to the revolutionists, then sailed with 250 armed rebels and a lot of officers with proclamations for Gonaives, where a revolution was started. She next sailed for St. Mark's and did the same thing, then coasted below Port-au-Prince in the wine business, and after the proclamations of blockade returned to the upper ports, and with a second body of armed revolutionists, 100 in number, sailed again for the southern ports to incite insurrection. Returning, she ran the blockade into the harbor of St. Mark's, and in attempting to run out next day was captured. She was taken to Port-au-Prince as a prize. There a written agreement was entered into with the American minister that the case should be submitted to the authorities here in Washington, and that if no satisfactory decision was reached it should then be submitted to arbitration. The President violated this agreement, refused to hear the Haytian side of the case, declared, when the minister asked to be heard, that the case was closed, and sent the ships of war to Hayti to seize the ship. This course was without a shadow of right, and was in flagrant violation of every diplomatic decency. The matter is likely to lead to congressional action."

If there is to be a new deal territorially on the Pacific Coast, Nevada puts in an early and loud claim for that "flap" of California—to borrow the phrase of a Winnemucca contemporary—which extends along the east side of the Sierras. In this overlapping bit of California's territory are the headwaters of all Nevada's streams, and there must be constructed the storage reservoirs for her projected system of irrigation. Naturally the sagebrush State wants to acquire rights of ownership, and the California counties immediately concerned are reported willing.—*Hartford Courant*.

It is in a tone of mingled envy and despair that the European press is wont nowadays to comment upon the state of America. "Look," exclaims *Le Petit Journal* of Paris, "at the progress of our rivals in commerce, in agriculture, in industry! They do without us. They expel us from the markets where we held formerly incontestable supremacy. They may perhaps soon be able to sell their products to us here in our homes cheaper than we sell ours. If the men over there who propose the commercial union of North and South America should make their ideas and projects triumphant, if the markets which are yet fully open to us should thus be closed, how could Europe avoid bankruptcy?"

The wool growers of four Texas counties—Kimble, Menard, Sutton, and Schleicher—met in convention last week, adopted a memorial to Congress urging such an amendment of the tariff as shall put a stop to the fraudulent importation of foreign wool as "waste," and also passed some interesting resolutions. In one they declare their great satisfaction at the triumph of the principle of protection to home industries in the election of General Harrison. In another, declaring that they had no representative in the present Texas delegation, they ask Mr. Randall of Pennsylvania and Mr. McKinley of Ohio to look after their interests and act as their spokesmen during the coming tariff discussion in the House.

This year's Florida orange crop is described as "unprecedented." DeLand alone, it is said, will ship over 75,000 boxes. The other day a Mr. Houston brought into Sanford an orange ("Washington Naval") which measured 14 x 14 inches in circumference and weighed 12 pounds. He has shipped a great many boxes of this variety from Belair at \$6 per box, running mostly ninety-six to the box.

Although only one formal notice of contest (Hartsuff, rep. against Whiting, dem., Seventh Mich.) has thus far been filed in the office of the Clerk of the House at Washington, Secretary McPherson is quoted as saying that there will be at least twenty-five of them by the time the new Congress starts off.

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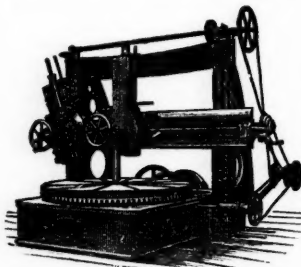
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